Samurai Drive

Shouja Sense

Volume 2 Chapter 8

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#8 至誠館の長い一日~夜~之回

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
DO YOU 2ND YEARS PLAN TO BUTT IN OUR BUSI-NESS?
YOU SAY ...
"TO HAVE FUN."

Q: ISN'T THERE AN AWFUL LOT OF STRONGEST GUYS IN SHISEIKAN?
THIS YEAR, THE 1ST AND 2ND YEARS HAVE A LOT OF AWESOOOME ONES by pure chance!
Must be some kind of magic that happens once a hundred years or something
Eh?
You're so great!
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES
#4

BUT KAZUE, YA HEARD HOW HE ADDRESSED HIS SENIORS TOO
SOOORRY
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG
... CHIKARA
OH YEA, SO WE CAN TEACH 'EM A LESSON, HUH?
WE WOULDN'T HAVE SHISEIKEN'S 1ST YEARS ANY OTHER WAY.
The Souma brothers
!!!!!
Chikara-san Kazue-san
the "twin devils"
Every time both of them draw there are unavoidable screams echoing

there's the blacksmith Ukyou Tsurugibe
YOUR EYES AREN'T LAUGHING
KAZUE, CHIKARA,
Besides
YOU'RE SCARING EVERYONE.
That guy
Oh no, even though we're laughing deep down ins
Ishishi
May have a kind face however he forged his katana himself
and it's said there's nothing he can't cut
And the others too.
THAT ASIDE,
WHICH OF YOU IS "HARUMA KOKONOE"?
that's all the first class 2nd years together

KOKONOE
If they were to attack us now--
.....
YOU'RE HARUMA KOKONOE?
WELL, THAT SURE IS INTERESTING
THIS CUTE LITTLE THING IS THE STRONGEST 1ST YEAR?
Uhaha
HEY NOW, THAT'S RUDE.
!?
LOOK, KAZUE! SO SMALL! I WANT ONE LIKE THIS!
?

THIS IS A GET-TO-GETHER
IT'S CUSTOMARY HERE IN SHISEIKAN TO HOLD ONE!
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE US, 1ST YEARS
AH?
THAT'D BE WAY TOO UNCOOL OF US TO HELP ANYONE LIKE THAT!
Laaame!
Hah
KOKONOE! YOU GUYS ASKED THEM FOR HELP?!
IT'S TOO UNFAIR TO GET THE 2ND YEARS ON YOUR SIDE!
Funny to hear YOU talk about fairness.
Shiseikan's traditions!
We're watching you—
Give it your best shot 1st years!
Hooray
baptism!
WHEN WE HEARD ABOUT A COMPETITION TO DECIDE THE BEST 1ST YEAR,
WE JUST HAD TO COME AND SEE, YA KNOW?
BESIDES
"IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THE STRONGEST 1ST YEAR, HARUMA KOKONOE, I'LL GET MAD."
!
There's only one person in the 2nd years that calls me by that name.
Leader
OUR LEADER SAID THIS

RIGHT,
JIN?
the Demon God
Jin Saitou
Another 2nd year who stands on top of that whole strong lot and currently reigns over Shiseikan
YEAH, TODAY WILL MARK HARUMA KOKONOE'S AWAKENING.

WELL I WON'T HAVE THAT.
AH
AH
WA-
WA-
Senshuu
Sugatani

WAI-
BUT NOT ONLY THEM, YOU TOO, HARUMA KOKONOE! HOW LONG WILL YOU KEEP BLOWING SMOKE?
HE WIPED THEM ALL OUT ..?!
I DIDN'T EXPECT MUCH FROM THEM, BUT
.....
WHICH?
... GIVE IT BACK!
IN THE END
THEY COULDN'T SPARK ANY OF HARUMA KOKONOE'S FLAME.
EVEN THAT WAS TOO MUCH FOR THOSE BLUNDERING IDIOTS

FROM THE START NOTHING YOU'VE BEEN SAYING HAS MADE ANY SENSE AT ALL!
AND YOU TOOK CARE OF THE GUYS FROM OUR CLASS TOO...
HEY BASTARD!
WHY DO YOU HESITATE SO?!
HARUMA KOKONOE
DAMN YOU,
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU AFTER!?
WHAT AM I AFTER?
MY SOLE
AND SUPREME PURPOSE
IS
HUH?
AMAZING
Hah
I'M SAYING I'M AMAZED YOUR BIRDBRAIN STILL DOESN'T HAVE A CLUE.
WHA-
H9
!?

This is my life-work!
TO KEEP THE INNER FLAME IN PEOPLE BURNING BRIGHT
Do you know when people are most beauti-ful?
It is when they stand up for something they believe in whole-heartedly.
I love beauti-ful things
HE'S STILL RAVING ...?
PLEASE DON'T LUMP US TOGETHER WITH HIM
ARE ALL OF YOU 1ST YEARS THAT INTERESTING?!
I don't get it...

He was beautiful
When I saw Haruma Kokonoe for the first time, I was astounded
THEN I DISCOVERED HE WAS DDING EVERYTHING FOR THAT SEISHIROU SHINDDU'S SAKE.
Eee-
Hey Tsuruji, that guy's a piece of art!!
I LIKED HIM EVEN MDRE.
He was staring at the world with cold eyes
Haruma Kokonoe
was burning bright body and soul
giving it his all and risking everything in his struggle for the person he believed in
but then
Watching him I found fulfilment

Haruma Kokonoe began to waver
The ones responsible for this were those who started flocking around him
They blocked his view and he lost sight of his true desire
As he couldn't see that one thing anymore naturally Kokonoe's shine tarnished
THOSE WHO SULLY SUCH BEAUTY ARE SINNERS!
THERE-FORE,
THIS PURGE.
He's just deciding everything by himself
Cut it out! I mean it, quit it!
Eeek
HEY, KOKONOE, CUT HIM OFF WHEN-EVER!
ONCE HE'S RID OF ALL OF THEM, HARUMA KOKONOE CAN TRANSCEND HIMSELF AGAIN AND HIS FLAME WILL BURN ANEW.

THE STAGE IS SET.
NOW, IF YOU WOULD SHINE,
It's true
I wanted that
I was glad to be alone
NOW IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO RISE AS THE WOLF YOU WERE.
GET YOUR RESOLVE BACK AND BECOME A LONE SWORDSMAN ONCE AGAIN. I SHALL HAND YOU OVER THAT ULTIMATE FRAGMENT OF YOURSELF
TCH
ISN'T IT WHAT YOU WISHED FOR, TOO?
COME AND TAKE IT.
KOUYA
KOKONOE WON'T GO BACK TO BEING ALONE.

... RIGHT, KOKONOE?
TOO BAD FOR YOU, BUT I'M REALLY PERSIS-TENT.
EVEN IF I'M BEATEN OR REJECTED
I WON'T GIVE UP.
IBUKI
I WON'T LEAVE HIM ALONE.
BECAUSE I'M HARUMA KOKONOE'S FRIEND.

YOU'RE THE WORST OFFENDER, IBUKI TAKAHARA...
SILENCE, SINNER!
IBUKI!!
WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING, HARUMA KOKONOE!
WHAT YOU WANTED, IS RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES.
THAT WHICH MEANS EVERYTHING TO YOU

MAKE YOUR CHOICE.
DON'T DISAPPOINT ME, HARUMA KOKONOE
BETWEEN SEISHIROU'S KATANA, THE LEGACY OF HIS WILL,
OR
THAT INSIGNIFICANT WEAKLING, WHO'S NOTHING BUT A HINDRANCE TO YOU.
WHICH
WILL YOU CHOOSE?

There's only Seishirou for me
No need to think about it
Which
Did I feel
my chest tighten before.
If so
why
Why
am I
At this moment
confused?

I feel like I'm betraying Seishirou my everything
WHAT IF YOU CAN'T GET BACK WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR STUBBORNNESS?
Didn't I resolve to not give up?
that Ibuki Takahara has gotten to me
But I can't deny any longer

---So
I WON'T CHOOSE.
I won't hesitate either
WHAT?
WHAT I'LL TAKE BACK FROM YOU
IS BOTH OF THEM
YOU'LL NEVER AGAIN
STEAL ANYTHING AWAY FROM ME

Haruma Kokonoe's flame
has taken on a deeper shade?!
BEAUTIFUL
That shine
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND
IF YOU WANT KOUYA, THEN, WITH YOUR OWN POWER
I want to test it firsthand!
COME AND TAKE IT BACK!

HARUMA
I'M LENDING YOU MY "KOUKI".
TO WHO YOU ARE RIGHT NOW, I CAN LEND IT.
BE SURE TO TAKE EVERY-THING BACK!
.....
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME
YOU TALK
TOO MUCH

WHA-
KOKONOE LOST IN A FLASH?!
HEY!
WAY TO SHOOT DOWN MY HIGH EXPECTATIONS! IS HE ONLY THE STRONGEST IN RUMORS?
NO
THAT'S NOT IT

In an instant?!
THIS IS FIGHTING INSTINCT
AS SHIRO-YASHA, HE CROSSES SWORDS IN REAL STREET FIGHTS EVERY NIGHT.
HARUMA SENSED WHERE SEN-SHUU'S STRENGTH LIES
You've disappoint-ed me, Haruma Kokonoe.
I didn't care about winning or losing
I was only looking forward to enjoying myself
That was all I wished for.
Such a shame.
I'M NOT PLAY-ING AROUND.
YOU'RE NAIVE.
AS I'LL BE ENTER-TAINING YOU.
!
THAT'S AS FAR

Reverse blade? What...

BOTH KOUYA AND IBUKI
GIVE THEM BACK,
An unwavering gaze
WILL YOU STEAL ANYTHING AWAY FROM ME.
NEVER AGAIN
...THAT'S IT, HARUMA KOKONOE
Hmm
Beautiful
A shine

AT LONG LAST.
YES.
HE HAS NOW
OPENED HIS EYES TO
HIS PRECIOUS FRIENDS

AAH!
.....
WELL YOU KNOW...
I'M SO---
SORRY
AND I'M GRATE-FUL
THANK YOU
HA?
YOU WERE ANGRY, BUT YOU STILL WENT TO RETRIEVE MY KATANA
FOR SEISHI-ROU'S SAKE, AND FOR ME ---

BUT
RIGHT NOW I'LL ASK YOU!
ME! WHAT AM I TO YOU?
I ASSUMED
YOU KNEW THINGS WITHOUT HAVING TO SAY OR HEAR THEM
THAT'S WHY I WAS ANGRY,
AND I FIGURED I'D SHOW YOU AN EXAMPLE BY TAKING ACTION ON MY OWN
NO
ENOU-GH
THAT'S ENOUGH
SHUT UP!
A FRIEND?
A FRIEND, RIGHT?!
nod
THAT...

DON'T YOU EVER FORGET THAT AGAIN!
an autumn storm is coming!
but surely those bonds will stay strong through the coming autumn
when the night sky falls.
PM9:00
SHISEIKAN SCHOOL'S LONGEST DAY ENDS
END

Samurai Drive Character Intro #8

Souma brothers

Older - Chikara　Younger - Kazue

They're twins, 2nd year students and friends of Jin's. They have identical faces, but their personalities appear to be complete opposites in many regards. In fact, it is unexpectedly not so (or so it would seem). Though the older brother Chikara stands stronger as the elder, there are a lot of sound rumors going around about the younger one being even more ruthless than him. — They were created at the strong request of the person in charge. I didn't expect to design characters with head covers, that's totally new for me.